

§ 21.6310

RATE OF PURSUIT

§ 21.6310 Rate of pursuit.

(a) *General requirements.* A veteran should pursue a vocational training program at a rate which is consistent with his or her ability to successfully pursue training, considering:

- (1) Effects of his or her disability;
- (2) Family responsibilities;
- (3) Travel;
- (4) Reasonable adjustment to training; and
- (5) Other circumstances which affect the veteran's ability to pursue training.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(1))

(b) *Continuous pursuit.* A veteran should pursue a program of vocational training with as little interruption as necessary, considering the factors described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(1))

(c) *Responsibility for determining the rate of pursuit.* VR&E staff, in consultation with the veteran, will determine the rate and continuity of pursuit of training. Consultation with the medical consultant and the Vocational Rehabilitation Panel should be utilized as necessary. This determination will be made in the course of developing the plan, but may be changed later, as necessary to enable the veteran to complete his or her training.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(1))

(d) *Measurement of training time used.* The rate of pursuit shall be measured on the basis of the provisions of § 21.310 of this part. A veteran may not pursue training on a less than half-time basis as measured under § 21.310 of this part, except for brief periods, after which training must be resumed on a half-time or greater basis. Brief periods are limited to all or part of a semester, term or quarter, or up to 90 days in a course not conducted on a semester, term, or quarter basis.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(1))

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(e) *Reduced work tolerance.* The provisions of § 21.312 of this part are not applicable to this temporary program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(f) *Pursuit of training under special circumstances.* The provisions of § 21.314 of this part are not applicable to this temporary program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))

AUTHORIZATION OF SERVICES

§ 21.6320 Authorization of services under Chapter 31 rules.

(a) *General.* Sections 21.320 through 21.334 of this part are not applicable to a veteran pursuing a vocational training program except as specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))

(b) *Applicable rule.* Section 21.326 of this part pertaining to the beginning and ending dates of a period of employment services is applicable to veterans under this temporary program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

§ 21.6340 Leaves of absence.

(a) *General.* VA may approve leaves of absence under certain conditions. During approved leaves of absence, a veteran shall be considered to be pursuing training for purposes of computing the duration of a vocational training program under §§ 21.6070 through 21.6074. Leave may only be authorized for a veteran during a period of rehabilitation to the point of employability.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(b) *Purpose.* The purpose of the leave system is to enable the veteran to maintain his or her status as an active participant and avoid interruption or discontinuance of training.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b)(2))

(c) *Applicability of chapter 31 rules.* The provisions of § 21.340 of this part are not applicable to this temporary program. The provisions of § 21.342

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through §21.350 of this part are applicable except for §21.346 of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

SATISFACTORY CONDUCT AND COOPERATION

§21.6362 Satisfactory conduct and cooperation.

The provisions of §21.362 and §21.364 of this part are applicable to veterans pursuing vocational training under this program in the same manner as under 38 U.S.C. chapter 31.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524)

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

§21.6370 Authorization of transportation services.

(a) *General.* VA shall authorize transportation services necessary for a veteran to pursue a vocational training program under this temporary program. Transportation services include:

(1) Transportation for evaluation, reevaluation or counseling authorized under §21.376 of this part;

(2) Inter- and intraregional travel which may be authorized under §21.370 (except for (b)(2)(iii)(B)) and §21.372 of this part;

(3) Special transportation allowance authorized under §21.154 of this part;

(4) Commuting to and from training and seeking employment as authorized under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(b) *Reimbursement.* Payment of transportation services authorized by VA shall normally be made in arrears and in the same manner as tuition, fees and other services authorized under this program.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(c) *Transportation payment.* A veteran may be reimbursed for the costs of commuting to and from training and seeking employment if he or she requests such assistance and VA determines after careful examination of the veteran's situation, and subject to the limitation contained in paragraph (d) of this section, that the veteran would

be unable to pursue training without such assistance. VA may:

(1) Reimburse the facility at which the veteran is training if the facility provides transportation or related services;

(2) Reimburse the veteran for his or her actual commuting expense.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(d) *Limitations.* Payment of commuting expenses may not be made for any period:

(1) Except during the period of training and the first three months of employment services;

(2) When a program participant is employed;

(3) In which a program participant is eligible for, and entitled to, payment of commuting costs through other VA and non-VA programs;

(4) In which it becomes feasible for the veteran to commute to school with family, friends or fellow students.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(e) *Amount which may be paid.* VA will reimburse the veteran for his or her actual cost, not to exceed \$70 per month. Necessary supportive documentation must be submitted with each request for reimbursement. Payment will be made monthly or at longer intervals as may be agreed to in the IWRP.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

(f) *Nonduplication.* A veteran eligible for reimbursement of transportation services under this section and §21.154 of this part may only receive the benefit provided under §21.154 of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524(b))

ADDITIONAL APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

§21.6380 Additional applicable Chapter 31 regulations.

The following regulations are applicable to veterans pursuing the vocational training under this program in the same manner as they apply to 38 U.S.C. chapter 31: §21.380, §21.390, §21.400, §21.402, §21.412, §21.414 (except (d) and (e)), §21.420, and §21.430 (except (a)) of this part.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 1524)